

Minutes of the State Board of Health
May 10, 2000

A meeting of the Washington State Board of Health (WSBH) was held at the Lummi Community Building, Bellingham, WA. The public meeting of the WSBH was called to order by Dennis Braddock, Chair, at 9:50 am who addressed the attendees with the following statement:

“This is a public meeting of the WSBH held under provision of RCW 43.20. Notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with provisions of RCW 34.05, the Administrative Procedures Act. Those members having any conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board will report that conflict with respect to the particular subject under consideration. In case of challenge of any Board members by the public, the Board shall decide the status of the challenged members to participate before considering the substance of the matter.”

The following Board members were present:

Dennis Braddock, Chair	The Honorable Neva J. Corkrum, Vice Chair
Thomas H. Locke, MD, MPH.	Carl S. Osaki, RS, MPH
The Honorable Margaret Pageler, JD	Mary Selecky, Secretary, Department of Health
Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH.	Charles R. Chu, DPM
Joe Finkbonner	Ed Gray, MD

State Board of Health Staff present:

Don Sloma, Executive Director	Betty Bird, Administrative Assistant
Heather Boe, Executive Assistant	Kay DeRoos, Senior Health Policy Advisor
Hal Dygert, Senior AAG Advisor	Janice Englehart, Senior Health Policy Advisor

Guests and Other Participants

Myron Apilado, University of Washington, Minority Affairs, Vice-President
 Vanette Chase, Northwest Indian College, Environmental Health Programs, Director
 Rhonda Coats, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Student Services, Director
 Becky Diaz, Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Commissioner
 Christine Edgar, University of Washington, School of Public Health, Student Services, Director
 Charlie Garcia, University of Washington, School of Medicine, Multicultural Affairs Office, Director
 Anne Hirsch, Intercollegiate Center for Nursing Education, Associate Dean
 Beverly Horn, University of Washington, School of Nursing, Associate Professor
 David Knutson, House of Representatives, Senior Research Analyst
 Mary Looker, Department of Health, Primary Care Office, Director
 Kathy McVay, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Program Administrator
 Steven Meltzer, Washington State University, Eastern Washington Area Health Education Center, Director
 Tony Orange, Commission on African-American Affairs, Executive Director
 Jodi Palmer, Western Washington Health Education Center, Assistant Director
 Michael Peters, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, Deputy Director
 Joe Rich, Northwest Indian College, Instruction and Student Services, Vice-President
 Kelly Shaw, Department of Health, Office of Community and Rural Health, Manager
 Kris Sparks, Department of Health, Office of Community and Rural Health, Director
 Greg Stern, Whatcom County Health and Human Services Department, Health Officer
 June Strickland, University of Washington, School of Nursing, Assistant Professor
 Jack Thompson, University of Washington, School of Public Health, Senior Lecturer/Director NWC
 Larry Thompson, East West Consulting
 Nancy Woods, University of Washington, School of Nursing, Dean
 Laurie Wylie, Western Washington Health Education Center, Executive Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- *Motion: To approve the May 10, 2000 agenda as submitted.*

Motion/Second: Locke/Osaki the motion passed.

ADOPTION OF April 12, 2000 MEETING MINUTES

Thomas H. Locke, MD, MPH, noted that on page 3, Dr. Tu should be corrected to Dr. Thorburn. The Honorable Neva Corkrum commented that on page 3, Benton-Franklin Health District should replace the reference to Franklin county.

- *Motion: To approve the April 12, 2000 minutes as corrected.*
Motion/Second: Pageler/Locke passed unanimously.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Braddock welcomed the group to the meeting and to the Lummi House. He introduced Mr. Joe Finkbonner as the upcoming presenter on the Board's health disparities priority area.

BOARD PRIORITY ISSUE AREA – HEALTH DISPARITIES

Mr. Finkbonner opened with a welcome from the Lummi Reservation and explained that he would be providing an overview of the Board's work on health disparities and that members of the community would be presenting on their perceptions of the problem and current Washington efforts in the area of minority workforce development. He emphasized that the Board recognizes the multiple factors that can contribute to health disparities in minority populations and the multiple interventions that could address this problem. With that, he added that they have decided to focus the Board's efforts on workforce development. He provided a demographic profile of Washington residents noting the broad diversity within the state. He continued with a description of health status among racial and ethnic minorities, noting higher rates of HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease, tuberculosis, cancer, diabetes and asthma in minority populations.

VIEW FROM AFFECTED COMMUNITY GROUPS – HEALTH DISPARITY REALITIES

Ms. Gloria Rodriguez from the Washington Association of Community and Migrant Health described her association's commitment to eliminating health disparities and working on recruitment, training, and retention of minority health professionals (see hand-out). She elaborated on the association's goal of developing a culturally and linguistically competent workforce that reflects the population it serves. Ms. Rodriguez, highlighted the associations work on two collaborative projects including the Chicano Latino Mentorship Network (CLMN) and the Northwest Regional Latino Health Conference. She expressed her strong support for the Board's recommendations on addressing the problem of health disparities and offered to participate in any of the Board's committees focused on this effort.

Dr. Tom Locke, recognizing staffing shortages in the allied health field, asked about her perception of staff needs, especially with lab technicians and nurses. Ms. Rodriguez responded by acknowledging the staffing shortages to be more of a problem in rural areas than urban. She pointed out that she saw special needs in the area of oral health.

Ms. Becky Diaz from the Commission on Hispanic Affairs viewed a wide range of issues related to farmworker health, oral health, housing and drinking water quality. She described the conditions at Whatcom County's farmworkers' housing sites. She stated that the community restrooms offered no privacy, little hot water and unsanitary conditions. She also identified specific concerns related to Whatcom County's drinking water quality, stating that nitrate pollution is a persistent problem. She commented that even though an alternative water supply may be available, non-English speaking mothers may not know where to go because they cannot read the directive flyers. She added that children are showering, bathing and playing in this polluted water, resulting in a variety of illnesses.

Carl Osaki, RS, MSPH stated that one of the great challenges he experienced at Seattle King County Department of Public Health was finding qualified Hispanic, Black and Asian environmental health professionals. He added that it is important to address the need for development of environmental health as well as personal health care professionals. Ms. Diaz suggested that agencies recruit through community groups and through the commissions when an opening becomes available. Ms. Rodriguez added that creating more environmental health specialists requires reaching students at an early grade so that students know it is an option. Ms. Selecky asked

when such an intervention would be appropriate. Ms. Diaz responded second or third grade. She added that Latino kids are dropping out of school by the eighth grade. Ms. Corkrum provided an example from Pasco where Hispanic leaders have directed an effort to honor 2000 Hispanic academic achievers in the community.

Mr. Michael Peters, a representative from the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs provided an overview of issues of health disparity in the American Indian community. He spoke of the tie between health status and social/cultural disposition, emphasizing the Native Americans' attachment to the land and its resources. Unfortunately, he explained this connection can lead to diseases caused from environmental exposures (e.g., consuming contaminated fish). He described the health status of American Indians as fragile, identifying access barriers in rural areas, insurance limitations, higher morbidity statistics, lower life expectancy, higher unemployment rates, and lack of trained health professionals among the causal factors. He added that the greatest challenge on the Reservations is getting kids to finish school. When Native American children to get adequate training there is the added problem of these kids leaving their homes to pursue education and careers elsewhere.

Mr. Tony Orange, Executive Director of the Commission on African-American Affairs described the commission, its mission and purpose and then elaborated on a few of the disparities that directly affect the African American community. He described affordability and access to care as one of the great obstacles facing the African American community. He noted the problem that one in four African American women do not seek prenatal care. He stressed the importance of demonstrating how one's health status influences his/her ability to achieve in school. On the subject of elder care, he emphasized the need to properly screen homecare workers. Mr. Orange expressed his support of the Board's focus on minority health care professional training and a policy of inclusiveness. He added that minority populations need access to bilingual staff and translations of relevant health information.

FOCUSING ON HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, RECRUITMENT, AND RETENTION

Dr. Anne Hirsch, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the Intercollegiate Center for Nursing Education (ICNE) in Spokane reviewed the School's Native American/Hispanic Recruitment and Retention program (see slide handouts for details). In general she described the program's efforts to increase the number of Native American and Hispanic students completing Bachelor of Science (BS) and Masters (MS) degrees in nursing. The geographical focus of this program, she explained, is on the Plateau Tribal Region and the Yakima Valley. She described facilities, staff, funding sources, scholarships, grants, elements of the program, tutoring efforts, and reported outcomes. Since 1992, the program has seen 13 Native American BSNs, 2 Hispanic BSNs and 1 Hispanic MSN. She emphasized the need to expand the population of professionals to be more representative of population they serve, noting the importance of linguistic competency in serving minority populations. Ed Gray, MD asked about market factors that might divert people from pursuing medical careers. Dr. Hirsch said that she did not have data available on this. Secretary Selecky recommended that Board staff find data on the minority populations' general career choices and compare these data with available data on career choices in the health care field.

Ms. Rhonda Coats, State Board of Community and Technical Colleges described efforts the board is doing to diversify its staff and student population. They focus on recruitment, retention, career ladders, and admissions. She explained that they found the need to intervene as low as the 6th grade to encourage diverse college applicants. She described the unique culture of academia and the need to provide staff with the tools to work with a diverse student population. Ms. Coats described two workshops the board has/will be sponsoring: one on Asian Pacific Islander & the process of learning and the other on Hispanics & the process of learning. On funding sources, she explained that support for this work is coming out of their existing budget and some targeted grant dollars. On program evaluation, she explained that the board is looking at retention rates, critical points where students drop out, number of graduates, and whether policies and practices influence attendance, acceptance, retention. Mr. Osaki asked, when intervening at the 6th grade, where do the colleges target their efforts. Ms. Coats responded that students, counselors, teachers, and parents are all targeted.

Dr. Nancy Woods, Dean from the University of Washington School of Nursing described the School's Bachelors, Masters, and PhD program, noting a host of specialties available, including transcultural aspects of nursing. She underscored the need for nurses to understand the diverse aspects of communities and the need for cultural competency. As part of the School's strategic plan, she described several activities that serve to

diversify the School's student and faculty population. One of these activities include the effort to provide distance learning capability to increase access for students who do not want to travel away from their communities to attend nursing school. She elaborated on the School's Hispanic and Native American student enhancement program, highlighting the effort to expand minority representation in the School's faculty with broader recruitment efforts. Dr. Woods added that approximately one third the student population is a member of ethnic minority; the challenge she faces is retaining these students. The School is currently assessing this problem.

Dr. Myron Appalado, Associate Dean for Minority Affairs at the University of Washington spoke on the role of education in improving the overall status of minority populations. He described the purpose of his office as one that provides for financial aid to students and conducts outreach to minority populations. He noted that at the University of Washington, there are 429 Native American students. After acknowledging the failure rates of young people and the need to intervene early in a child's life, he described the University's \$19 million "geer up" project. This project in the lower Yakima Valley, he explained focuses on early education promotion in Latino/Chicano and Native American populations. He reported tremendous success in encouraging students to pursue higher education. Secretary Selecky asked that he add Cusick and the Kalispell Tribe to his program efforts.

Dr. June Strickland, Professor at the University of Washington's School of Nursing described barriers that children encounter in seeing college as an opportunity. She suggested that field trips to colleges with guidance counselors can expand a child's vision.

The Honorable Margaret Pageler, JD, while cautioning against making policy by anecdote, noted her personal observation within the health care system. She commented that she has observed very few African American health care professionals in her recent encounters with the system. She added that she would hope the health disparities committee would be able to look into this. Dr. Woods affirmed Ms. Pageler's observation as a problem. She suggested two groups with whom she has worked with on this very issue: the Association of African American Health Professionals and the Mary Mahoney Nursing Association. Dr. Locke commented that communities need nurses with skills that can address the complex interconnected psychosocial issues that are relevant in many of these minority communities. He encouraged the UW School of Nursing to incorporate the cultural competency curriculum into its Bachelors as well as Masters program.

Joe Rich, Vice President for Instruction and Student Services from the Northwest Indian College gave a brief description of the college (located on the Lummi reservation) and the population it serves in Oregon, Idaho, Washington and Southeast Alaska. He explained that a satellite system for instruction delivery allows for broader reach. He added that the school makes use of cooperative projects and role models as keys to student recruitment and retention. Mr. Rich stated that the school is funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, grants and tuition fees. He emphasized the point that serving people in minority populations is not necessarily providing them with scholarships to go to Seattle. He offered that the population might be better served by institutions within their own communities that can offer quality education. In order to establish these kind of institutions, resources need to be directed toward paying competitive salaries to get high caliber faculty among other things.

Another representative from the Northwest College elaborated on the school and its specific health-related activities. She described current programs in nutrition, chemical dependency prevention and treatment and the promise of programs in wastewater treatment, as well as a marine and environmental science center.

Mr. Charlie Garcia, University of Washington School of Medicine's Office of Multicultural Affairs described the role and services provided in his office, including: minority recruitment, admissions, retention, professional development, and faculty development. He acknowledged the need to develop an educational pipeline to health careers and the importance of having role models for children. He stressed the importance of exposing children to the possibility of medical school before they are in college. He elaborated on the School of Medicine's program that brings high school students to the University in the summer to offer exposure to medical school. On the subject of retention, Mr. Garcia stated that schools need to commit to student success by providing counseling support during difficult transition times. He also suggested offering mentoring networks for several minority populations.

Mr. Jack Thompson, Director for the NW Center for Public Health Practice at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine and Christine Edgar, Director of Student Services at the

School of Public Health described the School's efforts to make enduring change in this area. Mr. Thompson recognized the importance of the narrow focus on minority workforce development, but noted the need to acknowledge the multifaceted nature of problem of health disparities. He continued by explaining several initiatives by the School to diversify its student and faculty population. Citing the problem of a fairly homogeneous faculty, he discussed the possibility of giving faculty tenure credit for community service to in part address this problem. He also mentioned the importance of engaging in more community-based research. He echoed others sentiments regarding the need to reach children early in an effort to encourage higher education, referencing a cooperative program with the School of Public Health and the Health Services Administration. He stressed the importance of working collaboratively with many institutions on this effort.

Ms. Laurie Wylie, Director of Western Washington Area Health Education Center described her Centers commitment to working with children at an early age to encourage education pathways and careers in health care. She explained that her Center works within the school system to provide information about health careers in the standard science curriculum. She suggested that children need to be targeted in the K-6 grades to make a difference. On her funding, she explained that the Center receives approximately 45% of its funding from DOH, a small contribution from the federal government, and the balance of their monies from private funding sources. She continued that it has been problematic to measure the program's effectiveness because there is no sustainable funding source to support the work.

Mr. Steve Meltzer, Eastern Washington Area Health Education Center summarized that there are many successful programs in the state, but that coordination efforts may not be as clear or well defined. He suggested that the Board may be able to add value in this coordination effort. He further expressed the need for state investment in infrastructure to maintain the pipeline flow. He stressed the importance of exposing students to diverse communities so that they can achieve competency in their future professional endeavors. He also mentioned the problem in rural communities with finding competent teachers to adequately meet students' needs.

Ms. Cathy McVay, Higher Education Coordinating Board described the loan repayment available to meet some of the needs expressed by other speakers. Chair Braddock asked approximately how much money is currently available and how much she envisions could be used to enhance the project. She estimated that approximately \$2 million per biennium for the program. She added that the program could easily use twice that amount to support scholarships/loan repayment for higher education.

SBOH SUBCOMMITTEE PROPOSED WORK PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS PROPOSAL, DISCUSSION, AND APPROVAL

After lunch, Mr. Finkbonner and Ms. Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH presented the subcommittee's recommendations to the Board. Mr. Finkbonner presented the following recommendations.

The first recommendation, he stated is to convene a Health Care Workforce Development Work Group. The purpose of the work group, he explained is to:

- Review existing strategies and recommend additional strategies
- Recommend actions to link more effectively state and local efforts to national efforts.
- Organize a health workforce development conference
- Review existing outcome data collection methods, data elements, and uses, and recommend improvements to increase simplicity, coordination, and accountability.

The second recommendation, he stated is to increase awareness of health disparities, contributing factors, and solutions. The key to success with this recommendation, he added is to collaborate with many of the groups that presented to the Board today.

Chair Braddock suggested that the Health Disparities Committee prepare a comprehensive proposal for 2001 legislative session to include, but not be limited to the loan repayment program. Dr. Locke stressed the need for a long-term funding source for this program so that it not fall by the wayside. Secretary Selecky suggested the need to develop a process. She cautioned against jumping in too quickly. Chair Braddock added that the legislative package would need to be much narrower than the generalizations spelled out in Recommendation 1 (i.e., review strategies, recommend actions, review outcomes). Margaret Pageler suggested that the package focus on one or two priorities. Don Sloma asked about the timeline for presenting this package to the

legislature. Chair Braddock suggested that the Board contact the Governor's Office to alert them that this proposal is coming. He added that the Board should move quickly on this. Mr. Osaki, expressing concerns about potential scheduling conflicts with the environmental justice work, asked about how this work might fit with the Board's environmental justice priority area. Ms. Janice Englehart responded that the Board staff will work in tandem on both of these priority areas because they are so interrelated. The second recommendation (increasing awareness of health disparities), she added, can be easily linked with the outreach work the Board is already doing on environmental justice.

Chair Braddock proposed that the Health Disparities Committee add a recommendation to put together a legislative package that would expand the scholarship and loan repayment program to include support for broad-based health professions.

- ***Motion to approve the suggestion to add legislative package to recommendations for the Health Disparities priority area as submitted***
Motion/Second: Pageler/Chu passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) UPDATE AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Referencing charges made against the Department of Health by Ms. Diaz from the Commission on Hispanic Affairs in her morning presentation, Secretary Selecky clarified that DOH is not licensing contaminated water systems in Whatcom county.

Secretary Selecky announced that Governor Locke decided to spray against gypsy moths in the Magnolia and Ballard neighborhoods in Seattle. She also commented that DOH is working with the Department of Ecology and the Seattle King County Department of Public Health on the lead and arsenic contamination found on Vashon and Maury Islands.

On farm worker housing, Secretary Selecky reported that DOH is working with CTED to identify public land on which to locate tents. The two agencies have identified six potential sites, but are challenged with the not-in-my-backyard (NIMBY) sentiments of residents.

Secretary Selecky revisited the Board's recent ruling that requires unpasteurized juice to be identified as such on the label. She commented that DOH has received six recent reports of salmonella poisoning. While suspected, there was no definitive link made with unpasteurized juice consumption.

Secretary Selecky announced that Hepatitis A vaccines will be distributed in several counties to curb the rate of infection.

On the Dawn Mining site, Secretary Selecky reported that DOH is still reviewing the permit to dispose of contaminated filter cake in the mine with clean fill. She added that 70 people attended a recent public meeting in Ford on the matter.

Secretary Selecky reported that DOH was forced to give notice of closure to a hospital in Tacoma. Noting the serious nature of this action, she added that DOH staff have been able to sit down with hospital personnel to plan for incremental action.

Ms. Patty Hayes, Department of Health director of Policy, Legislative, and Constituent Relations, provided a legislative update and summarized some of the salient points that the legislative staffers will be focusing on during the interim. She reported that a technical advisory committee is meeting to decide how the available \$15 million in tobacco revenues will be spent. She commented on problems associated with schedules and funding associated with I-695 cuts; noting that because local health departments run on calendar rather than fiscal years, their budget allocations have been shorted by approximately six months. She added that this calculation error will need to be addressed. Ms. Hayes described several interim studies that various House and Senate committees will be working on in the next several months. These studies focus on: the insurance market, non-profits mergers, prescription drugs, privacy, health status of rural residents, oral health, mental health, confidentiality, and CPR especially for older people.

SBOH STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Don Sloma introduced Ms. Kay DeRoos to the Board. He described her credentials, referenced her resume and stated that she would be working on the public forums.

Mr. Sloma reported that the staff had generated a list of legislators and key contacts with whom the board and staff should meet. This list, he explained, includes those committees that will have an interest in the board's activities. Chair Braddock suggested that board members review the list and contact staff to arrange meetings.

Mr. Sloma referenced two memos from Ms. Beth Berendt to the Board members that were included in their materials. He elaborated that the RFP for the access study was distributed with a very ambitious timeline. He also announced that the Board will be organizing a trip to Utah to visit with the Utah Information Network on July 19th. He asked that anyone interested contact him.

SPOKANE FORUM FOLLOW-UP AND FUTURE FORUM PLANS

Mr. Sloma reviewed the feedback received on the Spokane public forum. In general, he stated that the forum was reasonably well received with a few suggestions for improvement. Comments included a request for shorter afternoon sessions and a plea to get people other than just medical/public health professionals to participate. As a follow-up gesture, Mr. Sloma noted that thank you letters and forum summaries were sent to local health boards, local health administrators and officers.

Secretary Selecky asked if the board would be touring the tents at the Pasco meeting. Mr. Sloma confirmed that this was the plan.

UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES

No report given.

ACCESS TO MEDICAL SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS

Mr. Larry Thompson, East West Consulting presented to the Board on Healthcare Financing Reform in Rural Areas. He encouraged the Board to move the public dialogue to a solution centered debate that focuses on "systems thinking." Mr. Thompson suggested that an effective health care financing system would "support the delivery of the right services to the right people in the most efficient way." He continued with a discussion of Washington's current healthcare financing system and the problems associated with it. He then mapped three potential reform models, labeling them in the following way.

- A more level playing field. Use stronger incentives and regulations to guide commercial insurers to better serve the public agenda.
- An alternative playing field. Promote development of local quasi-public health insuring authorities.
- Get rid of the field. Promote development of local quasi-public global regulatory bodies.

Mr. Thompson discussed costs and benefits associated with each of these models. (For more detail on the models, see handouts.) He concluded by stating that this is an important public policy issue that requires leadership. He added that he hopes the board will remain attentive to it.

Dr. Gray questioned whether the Santa Barbara results that Mr. Thompson presented (in model 2) were transferable to rural Washington. Mr. Thompson responded that he was not sure about the geography and its comparability.

Ms. Pageler expressed her concern about high transaction costs and wondered if there is a standard ways to quantify transaction costs. As a large buyer of insurance, she added, the State may have an opportunity to set meaningful standards.

Chair Braddock commented that healthcare financing cannot see improvements without cooperation. He added that rural areas are considering ways to opt out of the usual commercial way and creating something new.

SANITARY CONTROL OF SHELLFISH – CONSIDERATION OF RULE REVISION DELEGATION TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Mr. Osaki summarized that he and the board staff have been reviewing WAC 246-282, Sanitary Control of Shellfish and introduced Ms. Jennifer Tebaldi, Director of DOH's Office of Food Safety & Shellfish. Ms. Tebaldi provided a summary of DOH's progress to date on the revised rule. She mentioned that DOH has been working with stakeholders on the revision since 1994. She explained that in addition to making the rule more clear, the revision will be more consistent with the *Model Ordinance of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program*. She added that it will provide interpretations to general guidelines set forth in the Model Ordinance. A few of the rule requirements she mentioned included: harvest site certificates; telephone message devices; and special permits for seed and bait harvests and wet storage.

Mr. Osaki stated that Ms. Englehart conducted significant background research on the rule. He found no controversial issues warranting SBOH intervention. For this reason, he recommended that the Board delegate this rule to DOH, leaving the Board and staff time to focus on other activities. Dr. Locke questioned whether the delegation related to this rule in particular or the regulation of shellfish in general. Chair Braddock clarified that the delegation related only to this particular rule. He added that this rule delegation does not take away the Board's regulatory authority over shellfish. Dr. Locke questioned the rulemaking responsibilities of both the Board and DOH. He suggested that the Board develop criteria that would articulate when delegation to DOH would be appropriate. Secretary Selecky added that the Board discussed the issue of delegation and establishing criteria approximately one year ago. Rather than revisiting this issue now, she recommended that SBOH staff review the minutes, talk with Ms. Michelle Davis, and draft such criteria in cooperation with DOH.

- *Motion to delegate WAC 246-282, Sanitary Control of Shellfish to DOH.*
Motion/Second: Osaki/Gray passed unanimously.

DECONTAMINATION OF ILLEGAL DRUG MANUFACTURING OR STORAGE SITES – CONSIDERATION OF RULE REVISION DELEGATION TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Mr. Osaki explained that he and Board staff have been reviewing the revised rule on decontamination of illegal drug manufacturing or storage sites. He stated that while he found some Environmental Health Directors opposed to delegation in general, he did not find opposition to this particular rule delegation.

Ms. Maryanne Guichard, Department of Health Director of Office of Environmental Health and Safety continued with a report on DOH's activities related to the rule revision, including extensive stakeholder participation. She emphasized that drug lab activity is growing rapidly in the state and the presence of small children at these sites is cause for increased public health concern. In keeping with the intent of the legislation to lesson the burden on property owners, this rule, she explained, offers property owners the opportunity to clean up their own property, if a certified contractor is not deemed necessary. The rule also will include cleanup standards for the primary hazardous chemicals found at an illegal drug lab site: methamphetamine, lead, mercury, and total volatile organic compounds (VOCs). In addition, she stated that the rule clarifies already existing posting requirements for local health jurisdictions. Following this presentation, Mr. Osaki reiterated that in his review of this particular rule, he found no reason for the Board to maintain control of the rulemaking process. He commended DOH for their excellent stakeholder participation on this revision and recommended that the Board delegate the rule to DOH.

- *Motion to delegate WAC 246-205, Decontamination Of Illegal Drug Manufacturing Or Storage Sites to DOH.*
Motion: Osaki passed unanimously.

OPEN PERIOD TO TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON ANY HEALTH ISSUES

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Dennis Braddock, Chair